

## Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 OMB-01 AID-20 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /140 W  
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R 060813Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6640

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 10698

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, OVIP, RP, MY, ID, SA, EG

SUBJECT: SAUDI, EGYPTIAN AND INDONESIAN REACTION TO

AL-TOHAMY'S MANILA VISIT

REF: A. JAKARTA 11011

B. KUALA LUMPUR 4286

C. MANILA 10534

1. CONTACTS WITH SAUDI, EGYPTIAN AND INDONESIAN DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES INDICATE LESS THAN ECSTATIC REACTIONS TO AL-TOHAMY VISIT, AS FOLLOWS:

2. SAUDI SECOND SECRETARY (AND SOLE SUBSTANTIVE STAFF IN TINY EMBASSY) INDICATED HIS AMBASSADOR ANNOYED BY AL-TOHAMY FAILURE TO CONSULT WITH MUSLIM BRETHREN (INCLUDING EGYPTIANS) DURING AUG 23-5 AND SEPT 1 VISITS. SAUDIA INITIALLY SUSPECTED THAT AL TOHAMY DEPARTURE STATEMENT RE "PLAN OF CONCILIATION" ISSUED BY GOP MIGHT BE DISTORTION AND AT LAST WORD WERE CHECKING WITH HIM VIA JIDDA ISLAMIC SECRETARIAT TO DETERMINE AUTHENTICITY.

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3. INDONESIANS (ACCORDING TO NEWLY ARRIVED MINISTER WISNU

IN CONVERSATION WITH DCM) WERE NOT PLEASED BY AL-TOHAMY'S INTRUSION AND WERE COORDINATING WITH MALAYSIANS AND FILIPINOS ON HOW TO HANDLE HIM. WISNU THOUGHT AL-TOHAMY MOSTLY INTERESTED IN TAKING CREDIT FOR ANY SOLUTION WHICH MIGHT EMERGE FROM TALKS BEING ARRANGED BY INDONESIA.

4. EGYPTIAN DIPLOMAT WHO HAS BEEN POSTED MANILA FOUR YEARS (AND PROFESSES CONSIDERABLE SYMPATHY FOR MARCOS ACCOMPLISHMENTS) ECHOED INDONESIAN CONCERN. HE SAID THAT AL-TOHAMY NEW TO ASIA AND LIKELY NOT TO APPRECIATE THAT ROLE OF ASEAN NEIGHBORS CRUCIAL. IT HAD BEEN HIS INTENTION TO COUNSEL AL TOHAMY TO INVOLVE INDONESIANS AND PERHAPS MALAYSIANS AT EVERY STEP, BUT PHILS (PERHAPS IN WELL-MEANING EFFORT TO DEMONSTRATE CONCERN) WHISKED AL TOHAMY FROM AIRPORT ON AUGUST 23 DIRECT TO MEETING WITH MARCOS AND HE NEVER DID GET AROUND TO DISCUSSIONS WITH LOCAL MUSLIM DIPLOMATS (NOT EVEN EGYPTIAN COM-PATRIOTS.) UNLIKE SAUDIS, EGYPTIANS HAD NO DOUBTS AS TO GENUINNESS OF HIS DEPARTURE STATEMENT, BUT WERE EQUALLY UNCLEAR AS TO WHAT "PLAN OF CONCILIATION" MEANS IN TERMS OF ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS.

5. BOTH SAUDIS AND EGYPTIANS EXPECT ANOTHER MANILA VISIT BY AL TOHAMY BEFORE LONG.

6. ALL SEEMED TO ACCEPT FORMAL ESTABLISHMENT OF FILI-PINO MUSLIM WELFARE AND RELIEF AGENCY AS MODEST FORWARD STEP, AND SAUDI REASSERTED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY EARMARKED \$5 MILLION FOR THIS FUND.

SULLIVAN

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